



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF MENDOCINO

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

FAMILY COURT MEDIATOR I/II \$ 3523/\$4725 Monthly

Final Filing Date: June 9, 2006 5pm

POSITION OVERVIEW: Under general supervision of the Family Court Services Director, the Family Court Mediator interviews parents and children and conducts mediation conferences in order to assist the Court and families in resolving child custody and visitation disputes, thereby avoiding the necessity of Court hearings. The Mediator assists individuals in formulating parenting plans, including custody and visitation schedules and most aspects of child rearing responsibilities, which are in the best interest of the children. Clinical skills are used to diffuse the anger and communication difficulties between the parents and help them focus on the needs of their children. The Mediator works closely with judges, commissioners, family law attorneys, the family law facilitator and representatives of community agencies. The Family Court Services Director determines the distribution of work and management of case assignments to the Mediator. The Mediator appears in court to receive referrals directly from the bench officer and schedules follow up appointments for those families continuing to resolve issues through mediation. The Mediator is involved in community networking with committees and agencies that serve and impact the lives of children and families. The Mediator also carries a small guardianship investigation caseload. This is an at-will position.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND QUALIFICATIONS: Mediators must know principles and techniques of counseling families and children, clinical skills to interview, assess and mediate, investigate, evaluate families with multiple and complex psychological, social, cultural and economic issues; deal with physical, emotional and sexual abuse and their effects on children and families, adult psychopathology and the dynamics of family dysfunction; substance abuse and domestic violence and their effect on children and families; family, juvenile and criminal law and/or functions and procedures of Superior Court; public and private community resources to meet the needs of families and children; principles and techniques for writing concise accurate reports with documentation, assessment, evaluation and recommendation components; make appropriate referrals when necessary; prepare concise guardianship investigation reports containing accurate assessment of the information obtained during the guardianship investigations; read, comprehend, interpret and accurately apply policies, rules, regulations and government codes; travel as necessary in the performance of job duties; keep statistics; accept supervision and request assistance or consultation when necessary.

JUDGEMENT AND RESPONSIBILITY: Incumbents work independently under general direction; priorities are determined by caseloads and court schedules. Pre-established policies, procedures, standards and legislation are in place, however, the nature of dispute resolution involves achieving results in the absence of easily applied rules.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE: A Master's degree from an accredited college or university in Social Welfare, Psychology, Counseling, Sociology, or other related behavioral science and at least three years of recent post Master's degree full-time experience in the field of counseling, social work, adoptions or related mental health field that demonstrates possession and application of the knowledge and abilities described. **OR:** A combination of recent education and/or full-time responsible professional level experience that demonstrates possession and application of the knowledge and skills listed below.

LICENSE AND CERTIFICATIONS: Licensing as an LMFT, LCSW, PhD or a licensed intern is preferable. The incumbent must have a valid California Drivers License.

SPECIAL WORKING CONDITIONS: Exposure to individuals who may be hostile and abusive; allergens such as dust, perfume, unpleasant body/clothing odors. For some positions, exposure to evidence and testimony which may be disturbing, such as photographs of child abuse and/or domestic violence and victims of crimes.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS: Must be able to lift/carry/push/pull objects up to 20lbs, ascend/descend stairs, sit/stand for long periods of time, bend, stretch, twist and reach.

BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS: Positions in the Courts will be subject to background and financial investigations as well as fingerprinting (Live Scan) and drug testing. Information discovered through such a background check may become grounds for dismissal from employment.

SELECTION PROCEDURES: All applications will be reviewed and those judged qualified will progress further into the selection/interview process. Special testing/interview arrangements may be made to accommodate disabilities or religious convictions. Phone Superior Court of Mendocino County Human Resources at (707) 463-4285 to discuss needed arrangements.

24 Hour Job Line
(707) 467-2544
Phone: (707) 463-4285
www.mendocino.courts.ca.gov

APPLY TO: Superior Court Human Resources
County of Mendocino
100 North State Street, Room 303
Ukiah, California 95482

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION/EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER